

App. No. 09/888,221
Amendment A
Page 2

Amendments To The Claims

Claims 1-17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (original): A data structure for use in electronically rendering a composite document comprising two or more component structures, each said component structure comprising:

a name element,
a data element,
an interface element,
a family element,
a structure element,
a properties element,
a code element,
an activation code element,
a rules element, and
a variables element.

Claim 19 (original): A data structure as in claim 18 wherein at least one element of at least one component structure contains a pointer to a corresponding element of another component structure, whereby when said at least one element is processed, the information contained in said corresponding element is used in processing said at least one element.

Claim 20 (original): A data structure as in claim 18 wherein at least one element of at least one component structure contains a pointer to the code element of said at

App. No. 09/888,221

Amendment A

Page 3

least one component structure, whereby when said at least one component structure is processed, the contents of said at least one element is obtained by execution of code pointed to in said code element of said at least one component structure.

Claim 21 (original): A data structure as in claim 18, wherein said components may reside on different internet accessible computer systems.

Claim 22 (original): A data structure as in claim 18, wherein at least one of said two or more component structures comprises a shadow component structure, said shadow component structure containing code or rules respectively contained in the code element of said shadow component structure or the rules element of said shadow component structure, at least one of said shadow component code and said shadow component rules when executed causing said shadow component to be resolved into at least one component.